



## Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report

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### Working Gas in Underground Storage Data Released August 31, 2006 at 10:30 A.M., For the Week Ending August 25, 2006

Region	Stocks (Bcf) for August 25, 2006	Stocks (Bcf) for August 18, 2006	Implied Net Change (Bcf)	Year Ago Stocks (Bcf)
<b>East</b>	1,673	1,639	34	1,496
<b>West</b>	398	391	7	379
<b>Producing</b>	834	827	7	750
<b>Total Lower 48</b>	2,905	2,857	48	2,625

Region	5-Year (2001-2005) Average Stocks (Bcf)	Difference from 5-Year Average (Percent)
<b>East</b>	1,486	12.6
<b>West</b>	353	12.7
<b>Producing</b>	746	11.8
<b>Total Lower 48</b>	2,585	12.4

#### Notes and Definitions

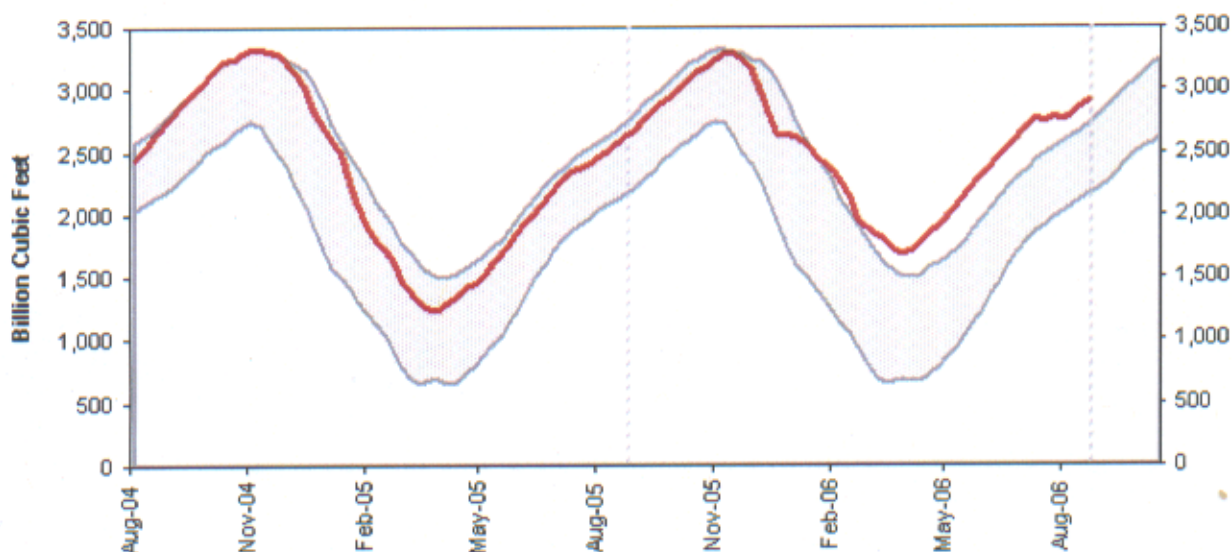
**Note:** This report tracks U.S. natural gas inventories held in underground storage facilities. The weekly stocks generally are the volumes of working gas as of the report date. Changes in reported stock levels reflect all events affecting working gas in storage, including injections, withdrawals, and reclassifications between base and working gas.

**Note:** The weekly storage estimates are based on a survey sample that does not include all companies that operate underground storage facilities. The sample was selected from the list of storage operators to achieve a target standard error of the estimate of working gas in storage which was no greater than 5 percent for each region. Based on a comparison of weekly estimates and monthly data from May 2002 through June 2006 estimated total working gas stocks have exhibited an average absolute error of 19 billion cubic feet, or 0.8 percent. For an expanded discussion of the relationship between the current and prior estimates, please see [Differences Between Monthly and Weekly Working Gas in Storage](#).

#### **Storage Highlights:**

Working gas in storage was 2,905 Bcf as of Friday, August 25, 2006, according to EIA estimates. This represents a net increase of 48 Bcf from the previous week. Stocks were 280 Bcf higher than last year at this time and 320 Bcf above the 5-year average of 2,585 Bcf. In the East Region,

stocks were 187 Bcf above the 5-year average following net injections of 34 Bcf. Stocks in the Producing Region were 88 Bcf above the 5-year average of 746 Bcf after a net injection of 7 Bcf. Stocks in the West Region were 45 Bcf above the 5-year average after a net addition of 7 Bcf. At 2,905 Bcf, total working gas is above the 5-year historical range.

**Working Gas in Underground Storage Compared with 5-Year Range**

Notes: A weekly record for March 8, 2002, was linearly interpolated between the derived weekly estimates that end March 1 and the initial estimate from the EIA-912 on March 15. The shaded area indicates the range between the historical minimum and maximum values for the weekly series from 2000 through 2004.

Source: Form EIA-912, "Weekly Underground Natural Gas Storage Report." The dashed vertical lines indicate current and year-ago weekly periods.

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